“Yannai Doctor” by Jayamogan🎧📘🐘

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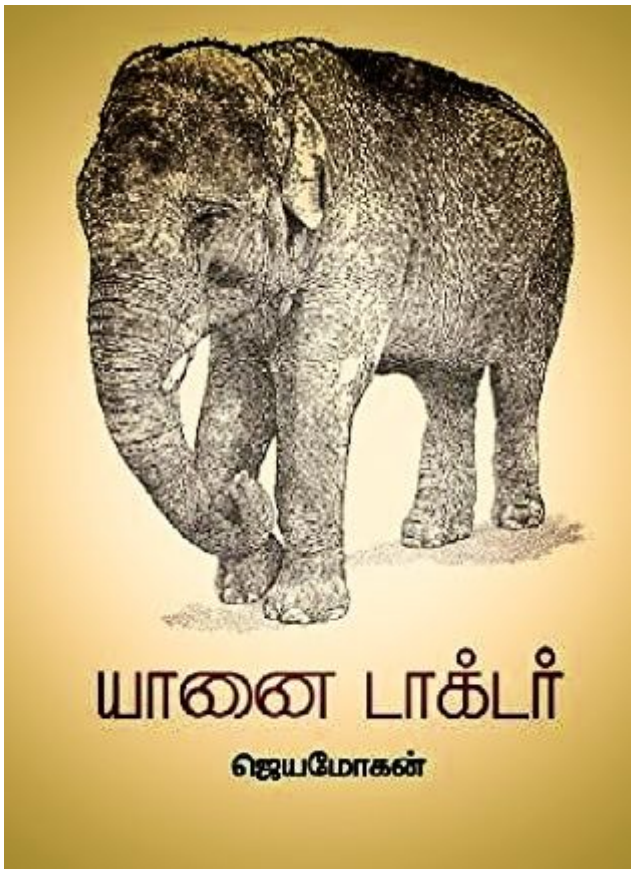

The True Meaning of Recognition

Reflecting on their shared experiences, the officer decided to visit Dr. Krishnamoorty with important news. After much effort, he had successfully nominated Dr. K for the prestigious “Badmashree” award, recognizing his dedication to the forest and his deep love for animals. When Dr. K heard about this, however, his reaction was unexpected. He showed no interest and remained unexcited, which angered the officer, leading him to question Dr. K’s indifference.

Dr. K calmly explained his perspective, asking, “What is the need for such an award? Can I show this award to the elephant outside and explain its importance?” He expressed his frustration that people often fail to understand the true value of the forest and its creatures, frequently abusing nature. To him, receiving an award from those who contribute to this destruction seemed meaningless. His words left the officer in stunned silence, unable to argue against the truth in Dr. K’s sentiments.

Seeing the officer’s disappointment, Dr. K encouraged him to speak his mind. The officer then shared how much he had changed since arriving in the forest and how Dr. K’s unwavering devotion to the wilderness had inspired him to develop a deep respect and

love for the natural world. He explained that he had pushed for the award because he wanted others to recognize the importance of the forest and animals through Dr. K's work.

A few days later, the officer learned that Dr. K's name had been removed from the award list. Surprisingly, he wasn't upset. He realized that the true recognition of Dr. K's value lay not in a formal award but in the profound impact he had on those who knew him and on the forest he so dearly loved.

A Night of Revelation: The Baby Elephant Returns

One evening, the officer decided to stay at Dr. Krishnamoorty's place, hoping to learn more from the man who had become his mentor. As the night unfolded, they heard an unusual sound in the distance. Dr. K immediately recognized it as an elephant and could even sense its presence nearby. They followed the sound and found a small elephant, injured once again by an alcohol bottle carelessly discarded by tourists. Thankfully, the injury was recent, and the bottle hadn't penetrated deeply or caused an infection. Dr. K swiftly cleaned the wound and provided care.

Curious, Dr. K asked the officer if he recognized the elephant. When the officer admitted he didn't, Dr. K gently reminded him of the group of elephants they had encountered earlier, the one with the baby elephant watching from afar as Dr. K treated a wounded member of their herd. This was the same baby elephant, now grown but still recognizable to Dr. K. The officer was amazed at how Dr. K could identify the elephant so easily. Dr. K explained that, just as humans can recognize familiar faces, he had developed the ability to distinguish between different elephants.

Intrigued, the officer then asked how this elephant had traveled so far from the place where it was previously treated. Dr. K shared insights about elephants' remarkable intelligence, explaining that they possess a highly developed sense of smell, even stronger than that of dogs, allowing them to track people and places over great distances. As they looked on, the officer noticed the group of elephants in the distance, seemingly expressing their gratitude for Dr. K's help. This moment filled the officer with awe, giving him goosebumps and deepening his admiration for Dr. K's extraordinary connection with the animals of the forest.

Dr. Krishnamoorty's Legacy: "Elephant Doctor"

Dr. Krishnamoorty's real-life work is vividly captured in the book *Elephant Doctor*. This publication delves into the vital role elephants play in forest ecosystems, particularly how their digestive processes aid in seed nourishment, which is essential for forest growth. Dr. K argues that elephants should not be treated as pets or kept in temples, but rather respected as the "Kings of the Forest." He emphasizes that 95% of elephants in the wild maintain their well-being, whereas 50% of those kept by people can become distressed. To promote their health, he has advocated for allowing elephants to spend at least a month in their natural habitat. His guidelines have profoundly influenced forest rangers in India and neighboring countries, reinforcing the importance of preserving elephants' natural roles and environments.

A Revelation About White Worms

What resonated deeply with me from *Elephant Doctor* was Dr. Krishnamoorty's insightful discussion on white worms. Often seen in decaying matter and commonly regarded with disgust, these worms are portrayed in a new light through his explanation. During a conversation between Dr. K and the officer, Dr. K asked if the officer had ever seen black bugs in rice. The officer confirmed he had and would remove them and eat, seeing them as bothersome. Dr. K then compared these bugs to adult forms, while white worms are merely their infant stages. He suggested that our perception of these creatures is influenced by our mindset. Just as infants, who know nothing but basic needs, are often seen as innocent, white worms are simply in the early stage of their life cycle, playing a role in nature's cycle of growth. Dr. K proposed that if we took the time to observe and understand these creatures, we might find beauty in them, transforming our initial disgust into appreciation. This perspective was eye-opening for me, challenging the typical aversion to worms and insects. It raised questions about why we fear these innocent beings while differentiating this fear from the justified concern for venomous creatures. Dr. K's reflections remind us that, as humans, we possess the unique ability to reshape our perceptions and see value in what we might initially find repugnant🐛.

Even the smallest of creatures, like white worms, play a vital role in nature's grand design. By shifting our perspective, we uncover the hidden beauty in their humble existence.